Title: Need to sanction more funds for repair of the National Highways in Kerala.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (KASARGOD): I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Surface Transport to the pathetic condition of the National Highways in Kerala.

The entire 1015 km. long National Highways of Kerala have been totally destroyed due to natural calamities. The condition of the roads results in regular traffic accidents. For carrying out the urgent repair works Kerala needs at least Rs. 225 crore. The meagre amount sanctioned is not sufficient to carry out repair works. It will be little to carry out patch-work on the road only, for the year 1998-99. Because of this situation traffic accidents have considerably increased.

In the circumstances, I urge the Government to urgently sanction at least Rs. 200 crore to undertake all necessary repairs of the National Highways in Kerala.